ABSTRACT

A system is provided for nulling out or eliminating alignment errors in an optical system by moving a lens to capture and center a collimated beam laterally-shifted by thermal excursions, thus to counteract the boresight error caused by the thermally-induced lateral shifting. As a result, alignment error due to the thermal coefficient of expansion characteristics of the optical elements and their mounting systems caused by lateral off-sets is corrected by moving a lens or lens system in response to thermal changes in a direction which moves the lens so that the collimated light impinging on the lens is made to come in on the optical axis of the lens.